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7926 (539)

¶ By the Quene.

HE Quenes Maiestie consyderynge the euyll dyspolition of sundrye her Subiectes, to kepe the auncyent orders for abstynence from eatynge of flesche, aswell in the tyme of Lent, as vpon other vsuall fastynge dayes: And waying the greate notable commodities growynge by the due obseruation thereof within her Maiesties dominions, manye maner of wayes: Strayghtly chargeth all maner of people resydynge in the same, from henceforth yerely to obserue and kepe the auncyent and laudable order for fastyng, aswell in the Lente tyme, as vpon al other fyshe dayes, and lykewyse commaundeth al maner officers, both Ecclesiasticall and Temporall, to whom the regarde hereof doth or may belong, strayghtlye to se the same wel and duely obserued. Wyllyng and commaundynge them in the name of Almyghtye God, before whom they shal aunswere for theyr perticuler charges, and as they wyl also aunswere to her Maiestie for theyr apparaunt contempte or negligence, that they do not either by theyr owne example, or by lacke of execution of theyr authoritie, permytte such lycentious and carnall disorder, in contempt of God and man, and onely to the satisfaction of deuelyshe and carnal appetite, to be suffered vnpunyshed. And because the maner of the execution hereof, in the Citie and Suburbes of London, and Westminster, shal geue good example to the rest of the Realme:

HER Maiestie by this present Proclamation, strayghtly commaundeth and chargeth the Maior of her sayde Citie, and the steward and principall officers of Westminster, that no Bocher, Pulter, nor victueller, shal at any time hereafter kyl, or sel or cause to be kylled or solde within the sayd Citie, or the suburbes, or within Westminster, or the iurisdiction thereof, any flesshe, betwene Shroftuesdaye, and the tuesday next after Palme Sonday, nor that anye table keper, Inholder, Victueller, or anye other person that kepeth any house, wherto any persons do or shal resorte for meate and drynke for their money, nor anye other person residinge within the same places, shal dresse, or suffer, or consente to be dressed, or eate, or suffre to be eaten, anye flesshe, within any of theyr houses, in Lent tyme, or vpon any fyshe day, vpon payne that euery person and persons that shal offend contrary to this order, shal forfeyte and paye to her highnesse for euery such offence, twenty poundes, thone halfe to be dysposed by theyr Churchwardens, to theyr poore people inhabytynge the paryshe where thoffence shalbe found, and thother to her highnesse vse, as in lyke case is ordred. And besydes, yf the person offendyng be a Citezen, he shal by the Mayor and his brethren without delay, be immediately for euer disfraunchised, and beyng a table keper, or Victueller vtterly disabled in any place to vse the same trade. And yf he be no Citezen, then he shal ouer and besydes the sayde forfayture, haue for euery such offence ten daies imprisonment without bayle, and yf the partie offending be not able to pay the sayd forfeyture immediately vpon proffe made of thoffence committed: the same shal for euery such offence, stand one market day in the market time openly vpon the pyllorye, during the space of fyre houres, and also that euery Alderman, for the tyme beyng within his ward, shal twyse in the Lent tyme, cause an enquyry and presentment to be made, by the othes of twelue honest and substanciall Citezens of euery warde, beyng no Bochers, Pulters, commen Victuellers, nor table keepers: what persons haue or do offend in eating, kylling, or sellyng of flesh within that ward, whereof thone enquyrye shalbe the Mundaye after Mydlent Sunday, and thother in the weke next before Easter, and that in the choyse of the persons which shal so enquire, good regard be had, that they be suche as be best disposed to fynde out, and truely to present such offences, without respect of persons, and also that the Maior with his brethren, cause once euery fortnyght priuie search to be made by honest and trusty persons of the houses of al Bochers, Pulters, table keepers, tauernes, Victuellers, and other suspected houses, for the better vnderstandynge whether they or any of them doo offende in the premysses, and that yf they shall fynde either by this searche, or by any lawful proffe brought before them, any person to haue offended: that then immediately they cause thoffenders to be punyshed, as aboue is expressed without fauor, affection, or respect of person. The lyke order to be kept by the direction of the Steward or head officers in Westminster, as the case shal requyre.

And it is further ordred and commaunded, that alwell the sayd Maior, as also euery of the saide Aldermen, and
e principall officers of the liberties of Westminster, shall yearely certifie vnto her highnes court of Chauncery
fore the fyrst day of Easter Terme, vpon paine of one hundred pound, what euery of them hath done in the exe-
tion of the premisses, vnder theyr handes and seales, to thintent that her highnesse therby may consider what
ligence or negligence shalbe vsed in theexecution hereof, that therevpon order may be taken with euery of them
cordinge to theyr desertes.

Prouided alwaies that this order extende not to punishe any person that by the lawes ecclesiastical and tempo-
l of this realme for nedefull and iust considerations be permitted to sell, kill, or eate flesshe, and for the better in-
ligence of persons licensed vpon reasonable & necessary cause, that none other may be collored therby, it is or-
red and commaunded that euery person hauing any licence, shal yearely the first Sunday of Lent, notifie the
me to the Aldermen of the warde within any Citie, and to the curate of the parish, or to one of them at the least
here he dwelleth & intendeth to take the benefite of the dispensation, or els the dispensation to be voyde. Thys
ner or the like order, her maiestie cōmaundeth to be obserued as nie as the same may be in all places through
r realme, with like penaltie, and specially in al corporate townes, from which townes corporate being scituate
thin .crl. myles of London, her maiesties pleasure is, that certificate in fourme aforesaid be made into her ma-
ties Chauncery, at the furthest before the second retorne of Easter Terme, vpon paine of one hundred poundes
be leuied to her maiesties vse, vpon the said corporation so making default: and from al other corporations be-
g furder distant, certificate is to be made as is aforesaid before the last day of Easter Terme, vpō like penaltie:
d for the better obseruation hereof, her maiestie requireth, and in gods name chargeth al Bishops, curates and
her ecclesiasticall persons hauing the cure of soules, or the charge of preaching, to exhort and perswade in their
mons, the people to forbeare this carnall licence and boldnes to breake common order, and to let them plainly
derstande the great daungers of the wrath of almightie god, that hath and will alwayes light vpon suche re-
llious and obstinate people, that more regarde their bellyes and appetites, then temperaunce and obedience.

And because her Maiestie woulde that this Proclamacion should haue continuaunce: her Maiestie chargeth
Maiors, Sheryffes, and other head officers, to whom apperteyneth the publication of this or lyke Procla-
acions, that this be proclaymed forthwith in euery place vsuall, and yearely to be proclaymed hereafter, vpon
the market dayes as shall in any place next go before the first weke of Lent: and that in euery Lete at Easter-
quilion be made of the execution hereof.

God saue the Quene.

C Imprinted at London in
Powles Church yarde, by Richarde
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to the Quenes Maiestie.

Cum priuilegio Regiæ Maiestatis.

UMI